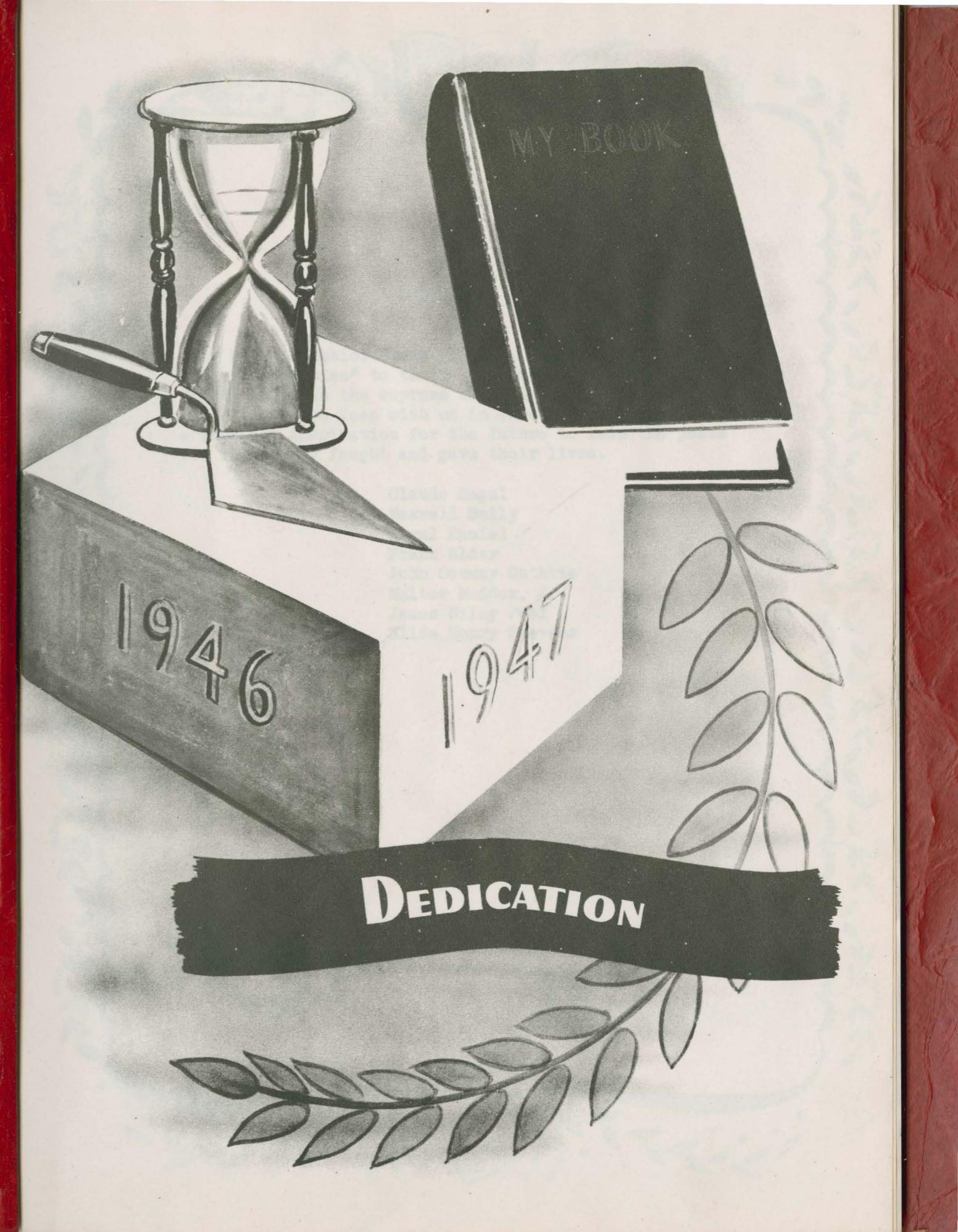
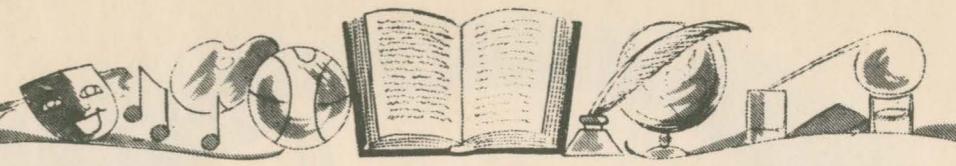


1946.4

**MEMORIAE GRATAE**





#### DEDICATION

We, the Senior Class of 1947, dedicate this copy of "Memoriae Gratiae" to those students of Brookneal High School who made the supreme sacrifice in World War II, whose memory we keep with us in reverence and in honor as a constant inspiration for the future to keep the peace for which they fought and gave their lives.

Claude Angel  
Maxwell Baily  
Royal Daniel  
Frank Elder  
John Conway Guthrie  
Walter Maddox, Jr.  
James Wiley Pool  
Ellis Henry Stevens



**ADMINISTRATION**

*Administration*



BROOKNEAL HIGH SCHOOL

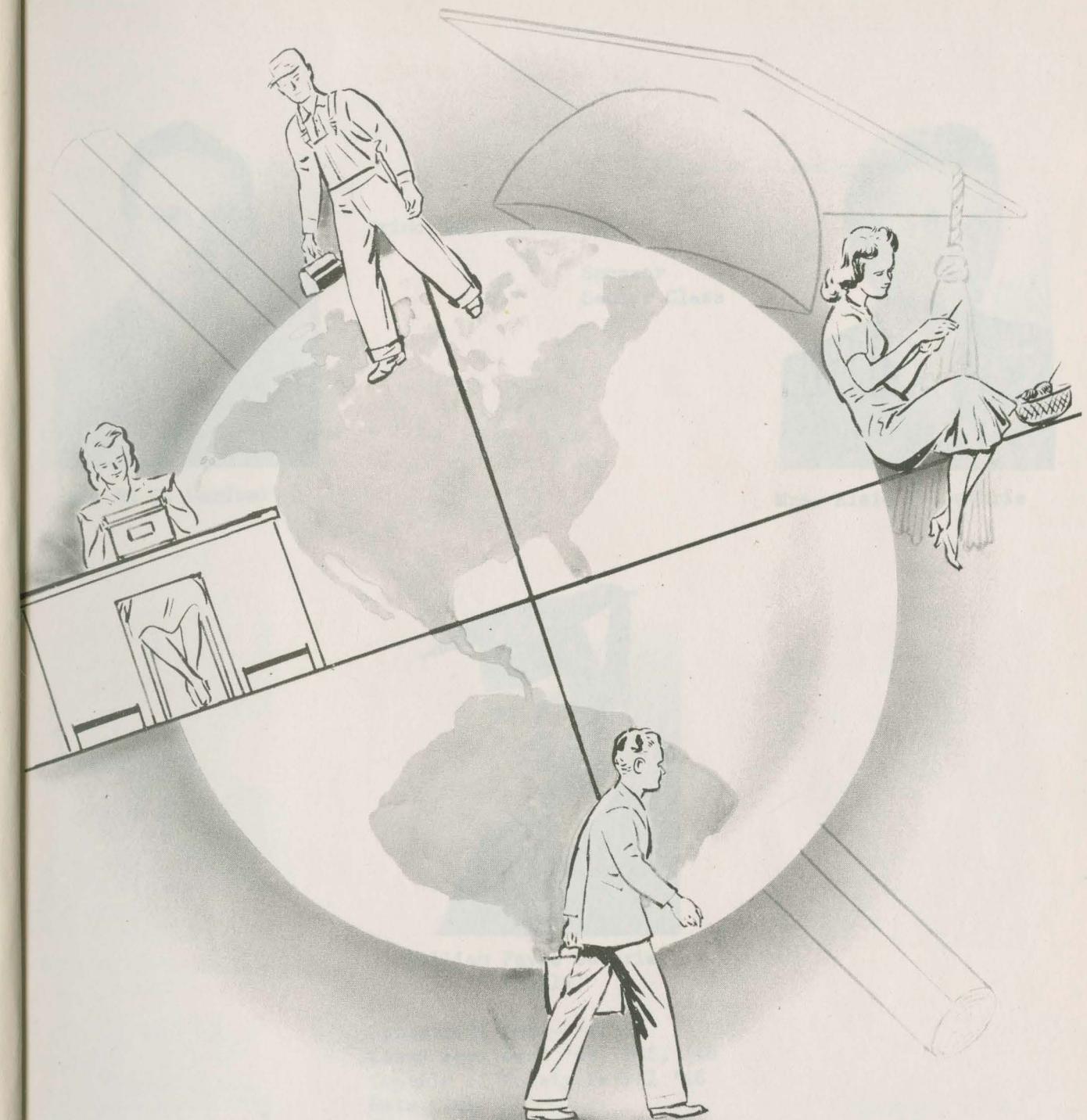
**FACULTY**

R. G. Gardner, Principal

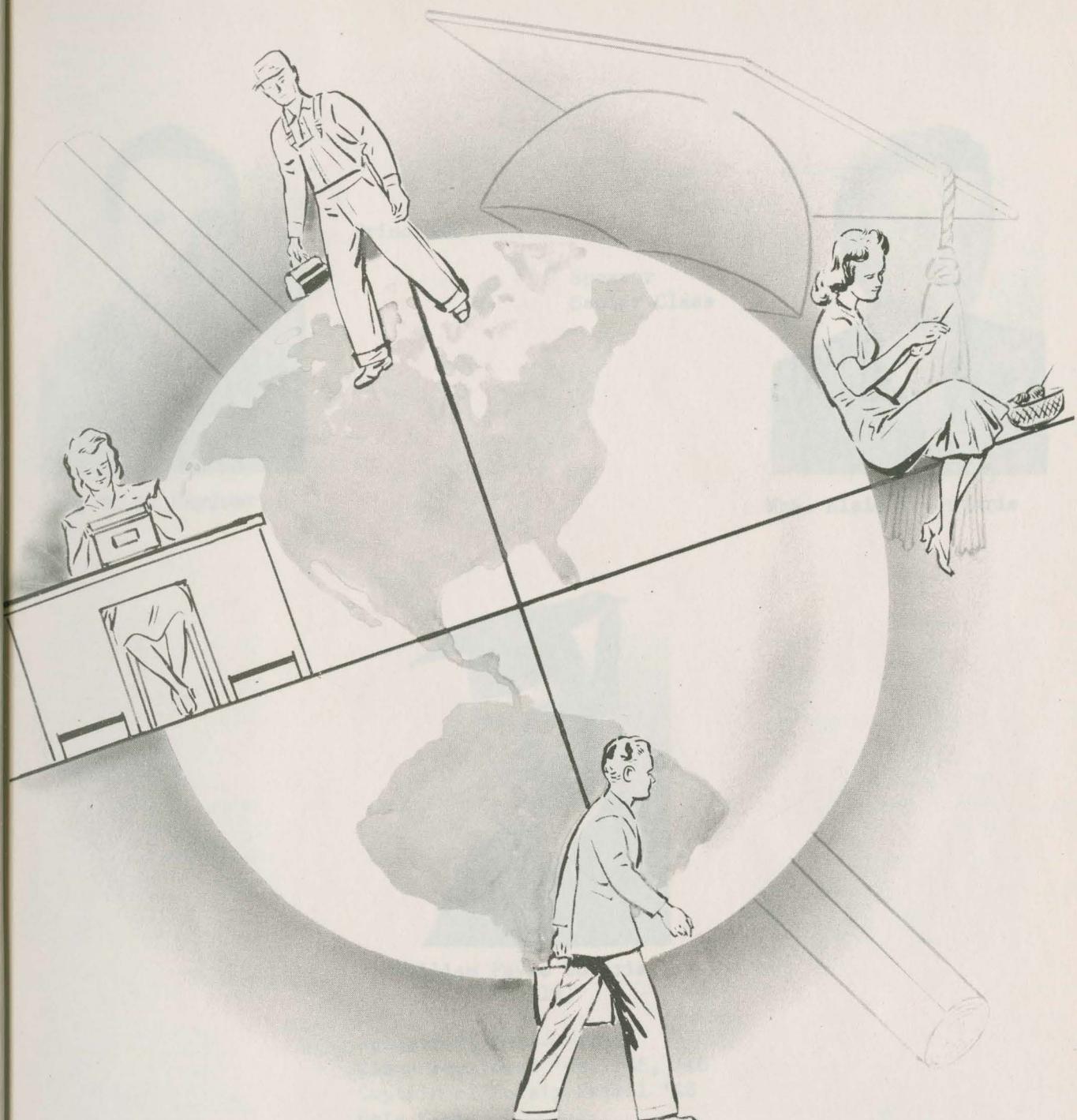
Mrs. Elsie Payne Guthrie  
Mrs. Celene H. Gardner  
Mrs. Dorothy R. Fore  
Mrs. Myrtle S. Straw  
Miss Ruby Adams

Mrs. Lucy Barlow

Mrs. Bernice G. Carey  
Mrs. Ida M. Arthur  
Mrs. Janie C. Wilson  
Miss Mary Tune  
Mrs. Nellie Bailey



**SENIORS**



**SENIORS**



Mr. R. G. Gardner

Principal

Sponsor  
Senior Class

Mrs. Elsie P. Guthrie

William Payne Guthrie  
(Billy)

Basketball '43 - '47  
Class President '43, '45, '46  
Captain of Safety Patrol '46  
Beta Club  
President of S. C. A. '46  
Drum and Bugle Corps '44 - '47  
Business Manager - Annual  
Manager of Baseball Team '45  
Sergeant at arms - S. C. A. '45



Jere Lee Davidson  
(Zeb)



Betty Ann Booker



Mary Ethel Straw

Valedictorian  
Basketball '43 - '47  
Basketball Captain '46  
President Beta Club  
Editor of Annual  
Drum and Bugle Corps '44 - '45  
Executive Committee S. C. A '46  
Safety Patrolman



Carey Maxwell Pillow  
(Casey)

Navy S 2/c '45, '46  
Sgt. at Arms S. C. A. '46  
Sentinel F. F. A. '46  
Lt. Safety Patrol '46  
Basketball '46  
Circulation Manager Annual

Vice President Senior  
Class '46  
Basketball '45 - '47  
Associate Manager  
Annual  
Beta Club  
Majorette Drum and  
Bugle Corps '44'46  
Secretary S. C. A. '46  
Safety Patrolman



Shirley Grey Bigger  
(Speedy Red)

Class Sec.-Treas. '43'45'46  
Class President '44  
Beta Club  
Safety Patrolman  
Associate Editor Annual  
Basketball '43 - '47  
Drum and Bugle Corps '44 '45  
Volley Ball '45

Basketball '44 - '47  
Volley Ball '45  
S. C. A. '46  
F. F. A. '43 - '47



Roy Carl Daniel  
(Dick)



William Lacy Laughlin  
(Myrt)



Evelyn Lacy Owen



Herbert Lee Clark  
(Lee)



Marion Gordon Bigger  
(My)

F. H. A. '45, '46  
S. C. A. '46

Class Reporter '43, '44  
Basketball '44 - '47  
Volleyball '45  
F. F. A. Reporter '46  
Safety Patrolman  
Associate Editor -  
Annual



Bettie Mae Toler

Vice President F. F. A. '44  
Drum Major '44 - '47  
Basketball '43 - '47  
Beta Club  
Baseball '44 - '47  
Volley Ball '45  
Reporter Hub Federation  
of F. F. A. '45

Drum and Bugle Corps  
Color Squad '45, '46  
Softball '45  
4-H Club '43  
S. C. A. '46

F. H. Treasurer '45  
Volleyball '45  
Drum and Bugle Corps '44 - '47  
S. C. A. '46

Vice President F. F. A. '45  
Secretary F. F. A. '46  
Vice President Beta Club  
Vice President S. C. A. '45  
Baseball '42 - '46  
Basketball '43 - '47  
Volley Ball '45



Garland Clark



Edward Lemache Bates, Jr.



Pauline Susie Ward  
(Susie Q)



Thelma Louise Evans



Mary Hilda Armistead  
(Wooden)

Co-Captain Softball '43  
Captain Softball '44  
Captain Volley Ball '45  
F. H. A. '45 '46  
S. C. A. '46  
Safety Patrolman

Hub Federation Sentinel '46  
F. F. A. Sentinel '43 '46  
Baseball '43 - '46  
Basketball '44 - '46  
Volley Ball '45  
S. C. A. Sgt.-at-Arms '46  
Executive Committee F. F. A.



Vivian Ann Pollard  
(Ann)

S. C. A. '46  
F. H. A. '45, '46  
Basketball '43 - '47  
4-H Club Reporter '43  
4-H Club Sec.-Treas. '44  
4-H Club President '45  
4-H Club Honor Reporter '46  
Beta Club

Basketball '43 - '47  
Secretary Beta Club  
Drum and Bugle Corps '44 '45  
Class Reporter '46  
S. C. A. Song Leader '45 '46  
Class Secretary '44  
Volley Ball '45

F. H. A. President '46  
Beta Club  
S. C. A. '46  
Drum and Bugle Corps '44  
Safety Patrolman '46

Drum and Bugle Corps Color  
Squad '45, '46  
4-H Club '43  
S. C. A. '46  
Beta Club



Eunice Morgan Trent  
(Curl)



## CLASS HISTORY

To be a true historian one must of necessity deal merely with facts. As we unroll the scroll of the "History of Class of 1947 of Brookneal High School" these facts become memorable.

Chapter I has its setting in the first grade room of B.H.S. and the time is 1946. The teacher is Miss Louise Henderson. The ultimate goal is graduation. Of that group, Betty Ann Booker, Billy Guthrie, Lacy Laughlin, Edward Bates, Herbert Lee Clark, Pauline Ward, and Vivian Pollard have reached that goal tonight.

In Grade 2, Betty Mae Tolar's name was added to our roll. Our teacher then was Miss Alma McIvor.

Mrs. Pearl Foster was our teacher in the third grade, when Shirley Bigger joined our class. Herbert Lee withdrew from the class at this time to re-enter in the sixth grade.

Thelma Evans joined us in the fourth grade with Miss Irene Cardwell as our teacher.

In Grade 5, two more names were added to the list—Eunice Trent and Hilda Armistead. Miss Virginia North was our teacher.

Miss Margaret Wilkerson and Mrs. Altha Mays taught us in the sixth grade.

Mrs. Lucy Barlow and Mrs. Elsie Payne Guthrie led us safely through Grade 7.

Chapter 8 of our history is entitled "Freshmen At Last". Ethel Straw and Evelyn Owen became members of our class at this time. With Mrs. Elsie Payne Guthrie as our home room teacher, we soon learned to exchange classes and assume an experienced appearance. This evidently helped us because the next year, the roll book was passed to the Sophomore Class.

Feeling not quite as important but much more sophisticated as Sophomores, we began another school year with Mrs. Earl Fox and Miss Mary Tune as our leaders.

Upon our arrival in the Junior Class, when Garland Clark and Jere Davidson joined us, our pride grew so that our class began to wish for badges befitting our station. Many messages were sent to

MEMORIAE GRATIAE

After vision I took pleasure to have our carnation with a set of  
to feel to need to graduate" and to follow all others as it would  
oldsmobile needed which made "graduating high school

the 2nd in most every field and all of which and I enjoyed  
-like and decorated school sets of various sort, book as well as

which pleased me very well in particular of long time  
which could not be had, and breast, although you wanted  
English Lang word teacher and called myself Mrs. Fore

and like use of books are over which we spent 2 hours at  
which said book was not ready to be used until next

and, every time we were asked to be used first and  
and not I wanted and ready, and the books would get  
every time all of which of all that is made

work with the other school and so many more which  
and so many more which we are allowed

and which -self all of books were not out, a book in  
which the one other library and teacher will be

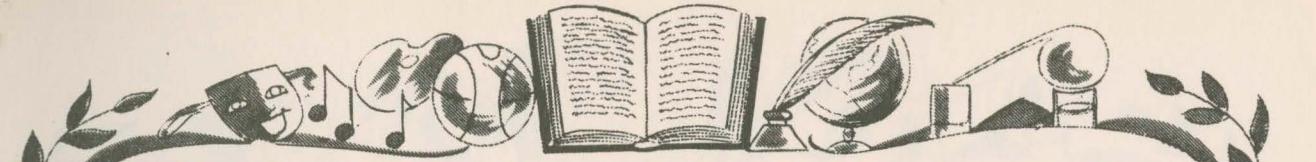
off at no time will itself and the people around him  
and so many more which we are allowed

which is bad which says itself will be written back and  
which is good which is good

"feel is needed" buildings at which we be to regard  
and what is made we to produce enough work which has  
book as produced part and the as attend your self and the  
enough knowledge as makes the people opinion of heron  
as good like and may been all caused by being creative and  
small amount of time

so buildings are made and prepared as will the public  
will be not just will the very good well prepared as, according  
which is good

and which building and small amount of time the  
is good which is very good too, so being created and  
of course anyone will make the qualified begin to do



the "big" cities for samples of their fine jewelry and at last after  
much considering and re-considering, rings were purchased. The day  
that the rings arrived was a "red letter day" in our career. Mrs.  
Annie A. Strickler and Mrs. Dorothy Fore were our home room teachers.  
The greatest event during this year was perhaps the Junior-Senior  
Prom.

The last recorded chapter of our history—Chapter 11—has the  
topic "Senior Highlights." The High School faculty was as follows:  
Mr. R. G. Gardner, principal; Mrs. Dorothy Fore, home room teacher;  
Mrs. Myrtle Straw, Mrs. Celene Gardner, and Mrs. Elsie Payne Guthrie,  
Senior class sponsor. The election of class officers, the selection  
of the class motto, flower, and colors was one of the first objectives  
of the class. We selected as the sponsor of our class, Mrs. Guthrie,  
who has proved by her unfailing devotion and capable guidance to be  
our real friend.

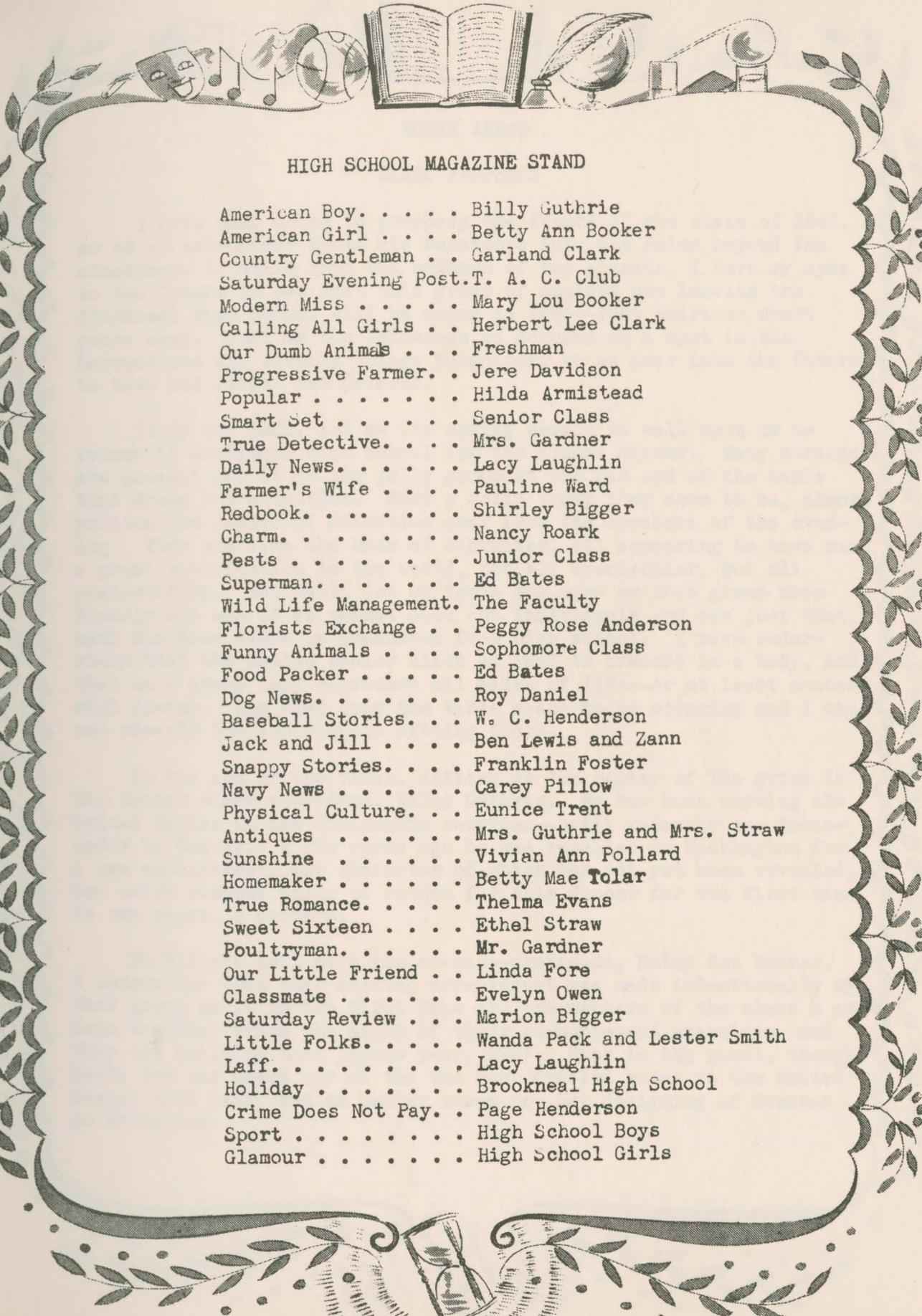
Interesting events of our Senior Year included the "hit"—"Coon  
Creek Minstrel" in which such characters as Miss Cauliflower Jughead  
and Mr. Slim Eggnog have already gone down in history. A date in our  
history which shall always be remembered is March 21, 1947, at which  
time the Junior Class entertained the "privileged seniors" with a  
banquet and dance at the school.

"Juke Box", our Senior play, was presented in April. It was such  
a success that in our history, it was destined to compete with the  
Barter Players.

Pictures for our history book were transferred to one of our  
greatest accomplishments of the year—our annual "Memoriae Gratiae",  
which means "pleasant memories."

The closing paragraph of our history leaves the class as they  
have reached their first goal—graduation. Other volumes of the class  
history will be recorded as the members strive to attain their motto,  
"To the stars through difficulty".

Vivian Ann Pollard



#### HIGH SCHOOL MAGAZINE STAND

American Boy . . . . .	Billy Guthrie
American Girl . . . . .	Betty Ann Booker
Country Gentleman . . .	Garland Clark
Saturday Evening Post.T. A. C. Club	
Modern Miss . . . . .	Mary Lou Booker
Calling All Girls . . .	Herbert Lee Clark
Our Dumb Animals . . .	Freshman
Progressive Farmer . .	Jere Davidson
Popular . . . . .	Hilda Armistead
Smart Set . . . . .	Senior Class
True Detective . . . .	Mrs. Gardner
Daily News . . . . .	Lacy Laughlin
Farmer's Wife . . . .	Pauline Ward
Redbook . . . . .	Shirley Bigger
Charm . . . . .	Nancy Roark
Pests . . . . .	Junior Class
Superman . . . . .	Ed Bates
Wild Life Management .	The Faculty
Florists Exchange . . .	Peggy Rose Anderson
Funny Animals . . . .	Sophomore Class
Food Packer . . . . .	Ed Bates
Dog News . . . . .	Roy Daniel
Baseball Stories . . . .	W. C. Henderson
Jack and Jill . . . . .	Ben Lewis and Zann
Snappy Stories . . . .	Franklin Foster
Navy News . . . . .	Carey Pillow
Physical Culture . . . .	Eunice Trent
Antiques . . . . .	Mrs. Guthrie and Mrs. Straw
Sunshine . . . . .	Vivian Ann Pollard
Homemaker . . . . .	Betty Mae Tolar
True Romance . . . . .	Thelma Evans
Sweet Sixteen . . . . .	Ethel Straw
Poultryman . . . . .	Mr. Gardner
Our Little Friend . . .	Linda Fore
Classmate . . . . .	Evelyn Owen
Saturday Review . . . .	Marion Bigger
Little Folks . . . . .	Wanda Pack and Lester Smith
Laff . . . . .	Lacy Laughlin
Holiday . . . . .	Brookneal High School
Crime Does Not Pay . .	Page Henderson
Sport . . . . .	High School Boys
Glamour . . . . .	High School Girls



## ROCKS AHEAD

### CLASS PROPHECY

I have been asked to prophesy the future of the class of 1947, so as an astronomer beams his telescope into the skies beyond the atmosphere to delve into the unknown of the planets, I turn my eyes to the future to see what this group of seniors now leaving the Brookneal High School will be doing in 1960--just thirteen short years away. Just as the telescope is focused on a spot in the Heavens and all earthly things forgotten, so we peer into the future to 1960 and forget the present.

It is now 1960, and as the spring season is well upon us we return to Brookneal High School for the alumni dinner. Many strangers are present but it is the jolly group at the far end of the table that draws our attention. What a solid group they seem to be, almost pulling the center of attention away from the speakers of the evening. They are like the Rock of Gibraltar, all appearing to have made a great contribution to the world, not all spectacular, but all praiseworthy. But wait, let us focus our eyes on this group more closely and see if we cannot pick out individuals and see just what each has done since he graduated from high school. I have understood that the entire senior class of 1947 is present in a body, and that as a group they represent all walks of life--or at least successful living. The mist over the table seems to be clearing and I can see clearly the individuals sitting there.

At the end of the table, sitting as the center of the group is the former class president, Billy Guthrie. He has been serving the United States in the diplomatic services--until recently was Ambassador to Russia. A few weeks ago he was recalled to Washington for a new appointment, the character of which has not yet been revealed, but which enabled Billy to return for this dinner for the first time in ten years, I believe.

On Billy's left sits the ex-vice-president, Betty Ann Booker. I understand that this seating arrangement was made intentionally by that group as it is the first time all the members of the class have been together since the night of their commencement exercises, and they are reliving that joyous year, 1947. Back to the guest, though. Betty Ann was named one of the ten best dressed women in the United States last year, but is better known for her designing of dresses in Hollywood.

CARINA REED

YVONNE REED

Well to make out to myself and quantity of books used and I  
and bought while out and especially and used transportation on as on  
days go out I ,especially out to mountains out and work at engineering's  
and universal was written to quote this book one of student's out of  
books mentioned just—over at which ed like fooded with information  
out of dogs a no benefit of especially out as part -your money  
student out out used on as ,engineering against writers like has showed  
,learning out right has over of

as we now live at comes price out as has over of JI  
expenses paid .Young man out not fooded with information of winter  
sides out to has not out to quote will out at it had January was  
reels out of uses you; quote like a full .dishes two month full  
-have out to students out work your students to reduce out putting  
them out of parades like ,medieval to food out will use you? .out  
like just ,university like for ,bites out of mathematics taught a  
from quote said no says we school on fed ,the fed .engineering  
take just was bus electrical two day lesson out it was given  
-when out I .books right out balancing out books each can done  
one ,good a in history at well to make rules of the out right books  
-comes just to ro--will to make like dinner you quote a in fed  
one I bus parades out of comes older out were talk out .again full  
.good qualities educational out physics out

at quote out to makes out as physics ,sides out to has out to  
out physics used out all .around time ,combining male research out  
-means one quotes like—universal information out of research had full  
out education of balances out of ops which out a .out of robes  
believe used for you and think to yourself out ,engineering was a  
out fruit out to much out not student of time had done and  
.wailed I ,easy and al

.radio out right ,engineering out as out that a little do  
of television when new transportation public out just bushes when I  
out a male out to makes out like out feed out at it as quote fed  
has ,assistant transportation feed to single out male teacher used  
about ,easy out of just .well ,easy major said public out just  
believe out of comes because feed out to who buses one out right  
means to going back and out much right out just ,easy just out of  
.decided of

Next to her sits the former secretary-treasurer, Shirley Bigger, who was only recently married to a doctor. She has been his nurse for the past year.

Next to the former president of the class is the class valedictorian, Ethel Straw. She was probably the brainiest member of the class and has since then made very good use of her intelligence. She is now head of the Math department of Vassar College. She is properly addressed as Dr. Straw. Perhaps you read about her a short time ago as an exchange teacher with Jean Pierre Thomas from France, with whom she corresponded during high school. This was on a program for more unified education throughout the world.

Beside her sits Hilda Armistead, who chose a career in radio, and has been one of the few women ever to become a well-known announcer. I never would have believed that women would become nationwide announcers, but it is an accepted fact that her services are much in demand. Perhaps television has been one thing to aid her as we enjoy listening to someone that is easy on the eyes.

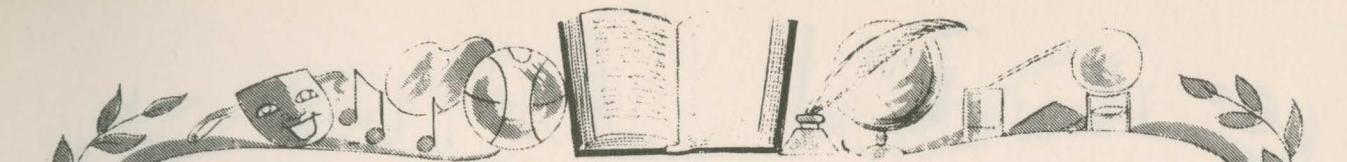
Oh, Look who is sitting on her right. No doubt those two have much in common for it is none other than Carey Pillow who helped develop television for long distance radio transmission. As I recall he always did like to tinker with cars and bits of machinery when he was in high school.

Next there is the former salutatorian, Jere Davidson, who was an outstanding scholar in school and since then has proved to be a very capable scientist. He graduated from Columbia University school of chemistry and has since that time made quite a name for himself in the field of atomic power research, experimenting in its us as a medium in locomotion. His future looks even more promising than it did thirteen years ago, and he looks like a scientist with his quick movements and the addition of glasses.

Coming down this way I see next, Marion Bigger who was chosen Miss America for 1960. Maybe Marion hasn't done so well in the business world but she seems to be rather popular.

Sitting down the side of the table a little way is Thelma Evans, a Powers Model. Her specialty is the modeling of fur coats. I also understand her hobby is the same as in 1947--trying on expensive engagement rings.

There is Ed Bates, a traveling salesman who stopped by for this dinner on his way to Daytona Beach, Florida, to be in the national

motorcycle races. Entering this race was always Ed's highest ambition.

Next to him is the former Vivian Pollard, who we are all familiar with as Lorna Drake, the retired Metropolitan soprano. Hers was a short, but satisfying career and she gave it up to become Perry Como's third wife.

And there is Bettie Mae Tolar, just as jolly as ever, who dances in the Bird House Cafe in Hollywood. Her latest dance specialty is called the "Bird House Polka".

Glancing around I see Lacy Laughlin who is a teacher in one of Philip Muarry's dancing schools. However, his newest dance hasn't been named yet. Lacy tells us that Pauline Ward, also one of the seniors in 1947, is the best student he has in any of his classes.

Even Roy Daniel, a Philadelphia lawyer, has time enough from his office to return for this reunion and to hunt some on his farm near Sugar Hill.

Attending always is Evelyn Owen who is the only one in this group to come back to her home town to be an elementary school teacher.

Next, I see Garland Clark, a well-known agriculture instructor at V.P.I. He seems to be doing excellent work with the help of his wife, a Home Economics teacher.

On his right is sitting Eunice Trent who is doing secretarial work in West Virginia. She still says there is no definite reason why she wanted to work in that state.

Last, but not least, I see Herbert Lee Clark who was recently elected Speaker of the House. He holds the world's record for filibustering; he talked for 48 hours on one occasion. He hasn't changed since high school days.

Time is passing and the clouds are already beginning to cover the table; I can only mention that among that class are teachers, famous business executives, models, dress designers, nurses and an important cog in the Democratic party. The curtain of the future is closing and my vision is dimmed so I can no longer distinguish individuals at the reunion.

Shirley Bigger

## BUILDING CHARACTER

### VALEDICTORY

It is with mixed emotions that, on behalf of the class of 1947, I say to you, "Farewell." There is so much of gladness in the realization that we have at last successfully completed a task undertaken eleven years ago. This graduation night has not always presented itself clearly in the crystal ball; sometimes we despaired of the outcome. So, no doubt did our persevering teachers. Work we have done sometimes painfully, slowly, and perhaps even unwillingly. Robert Herrick says "If little labors, little are our gains, Man's fortunes are according to his pains."

So, on our graduation night, we begrudge not a single growing pain of all our years in school. We know that because the way was sometimes difficult, we have gained more strength than if it had always been easy. It is with a certain degree of sadness that we sever the associations and companionship of fellow classmates and the stimulating, watchful guidance of our dear teachers. Yet we would not roll back the calendar if we could. Too great is the challenge and too great is the joy of being alive, young, and healthy in 1947. We have so much to look forward to in the future. So that we may have a full and happy life let us remember the importance of building a good character. What is character? Character is not what people think a person is nor his reputation. One's distinguishing traits or characteristics are embodied in his character. Character is the heart and soul of an individual. One may have a bad character hiding inside a good reputation, as an ugly hand is hidden by a glove. A good character is important because it gives one strength and courage. This strength provides confidence to face all manner of difficulty. A good character affords a defense against the attacks of men and temptations of the world. A good character will always show, sooner or later, through even a bad reputation. A good character is the basis of a good life, therefore each and everyone of us should strive to build one.

Life is never worthwhile because of what we have but because of what we do and what we are. A person who shows himself to be honest and conducts himself properly is seldom thought of as bad. A good character includes these things, honesty and good conduct. When we build these characteristics we build a good reputation. The worth of one's character is seen in the influence on others.

Ethel Straw

## **LAST WILL**

We, the Senior Class of Brookneal High School, County of Campbell, Falling River District, and state of Virginia, being of sound mind and memory do make, publish and declare this to be our last will and testament, hereby revoking all former wills by us at any time heretofore made.

We give back and return to our beloved teachers all the advice, information and reproofs which shall at the time of our departure from Brookneal High School be in, upon or about, our mind and memories, feeling that anything so freely and abundantly given away as said advice, information and reproofs of said teachers must be of value and not worth retaining in our minds and memories when we depart.

Shirley Bigger wills a printed page of basketball yells to June Foster so she will remember them even though some of the good players on the boys' team are graduating in this class. Made good of these, June, as yells are essential to all good players.

Hilda Armistead wills her love for the "Dons" to anyone who thinks they are as capable of doing as good a job as she has.

Since Thelma Evans has decided to give all her attention to one man, she leaves her love for the rest of the boys to Glennie Ruth Cunningham.

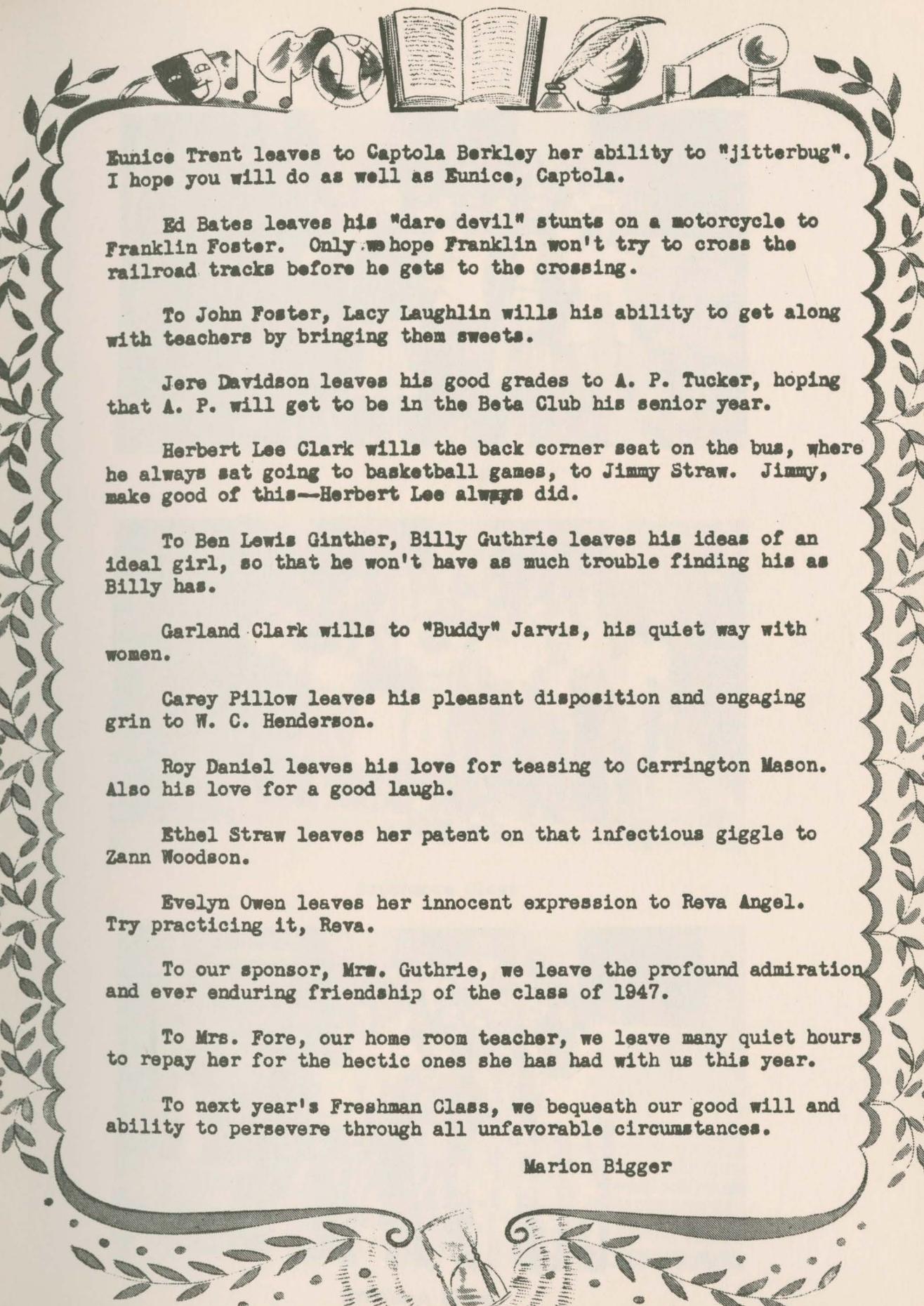
Vivian Pollard leaves her ability to sing to Virginia Evans.  
You have a lot of practicing to do, Virginia.

Since red heads wear pink so well, Betty Mae is willing her pink suit to Carolyn Holt.

To her kid sister, Pauline Ward leaves here jewelry since she likes it so well.

To Peggy Rose Anderson, Betty Ann Booker bequeaths her office as Secretary of Student Body and also her secretary notebook so next year she won't have so much trouble getting up the news.

Since Nancy Roark has trouble trying to keep up with her glasses case, Marion Bigger is willing hers to Nancy in order for her to have an extra case.





Junior Class



**Sophomore Class**



### Freshman Class

... credit of which had caused much of our staff concern.  
Along with us like us oh life not good I  
and education a few others "Liberals" and normal people had  
not been the ones who had organized the  
greatest and of course the greatest  
people for whom we have ever been  
pleased. Recent A.A. at robbery long and several months ago  
many believe and still now think of the day July 1st and  
study, and not so few hours later all the world was shocked  
with news of young Lincolns of police too quickly and  
with great and profound admiration  
as he went and never looked back again when all  
he did yesterday's address from the stand of death in India. Look  
now you help me, almost "perfect" as little well-known  
polycarp his straightforward honesty and several million votes  
nowhere. . . .  
normal. . . .  
normal organization of protest not even aid several hundred  
of whom long a lot of them and  
of myself concerned said no thanks and turned myself inland  
nowhere and  
largest part of whose work remained and turned over again  
over all publications and  
activities however and over all the various two of  
them to make all the gladdest part of our life  
and help you grow up. Indeed more than ever and now  
many and no office had and has been filled and yet the signs of  
our life long the blimped by your number's every hour of  
concentrated attention the greater importance of which  
was great.



Junior Class

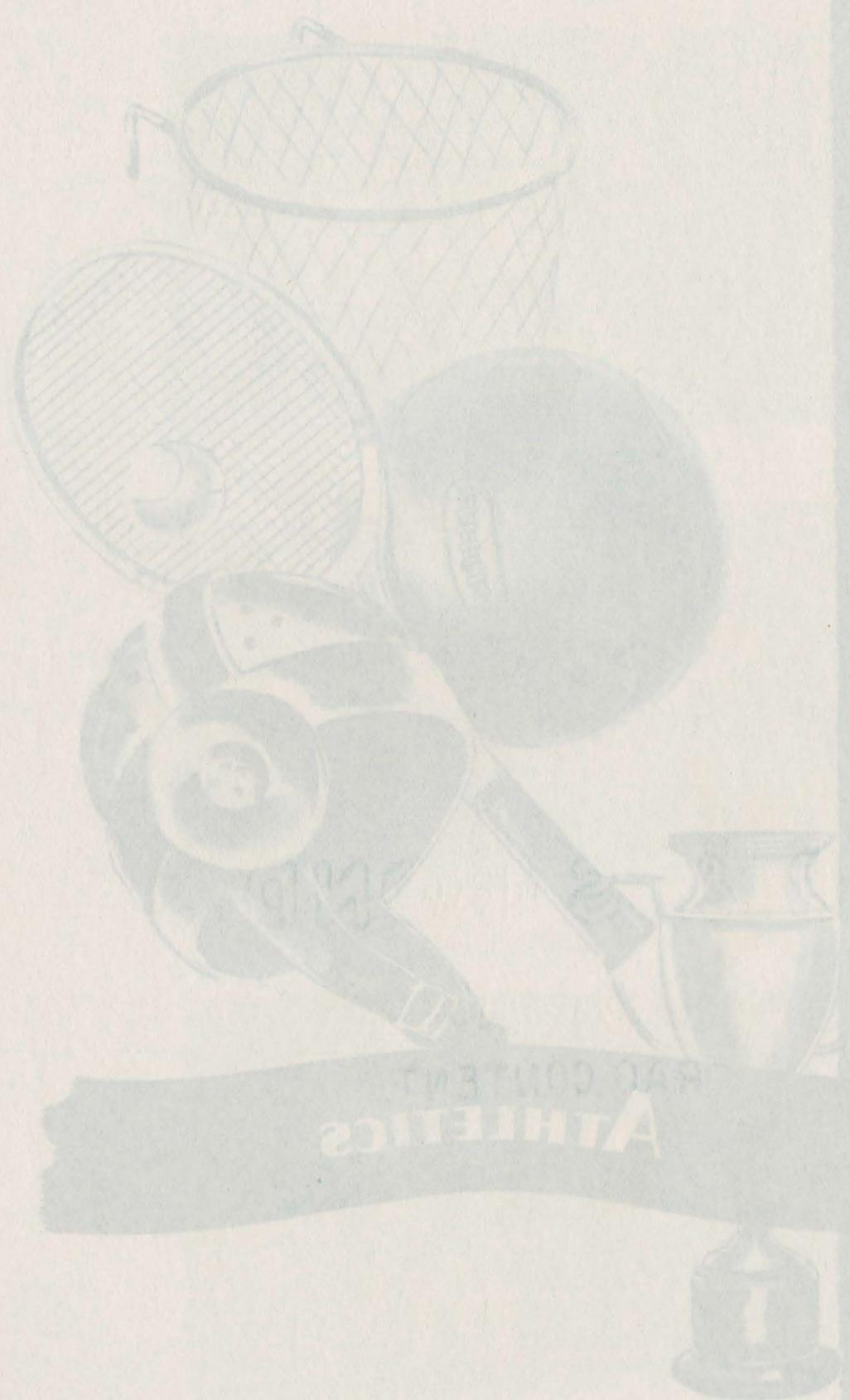


Sophomore Class



Freshman Class





Boys Basketball Team



Girls Basketball Team



Boys Baseball Team



**ACTIVITIES**



Faculty



Beta Club



Safety Patrol



Future Homemakers of America



Future Farmers Of America



Future Homemakers of America



Future Farmers Of America



SECTION 10 school year



## ADVERTISING

BROOKNEAL  
Hardware & Supply Co.  
Brookneal Motor Co.

Ford Sales and Service

G.E. Appliances

Bendix Radio

Telephone 33

Brookneal, Va.

BROOKNEAL  
Hardware & Supply Co.

General Merchandise

Sawmill Supplies

Mall Chain Saws

- Compliments of

Farmers Feed & Seed co.

Feed - Seed - Produce

Farm Supplies

Ray Daniel, owner Brookneal, Va.

Midkiff Hardware Co.  
General Hardware  
Brookneal, Virginia

Electrical Supply Store  
Carl Berry - Prop  
Wiring Contractors - Radio Service  
Bendix Automatic Laundry - Records

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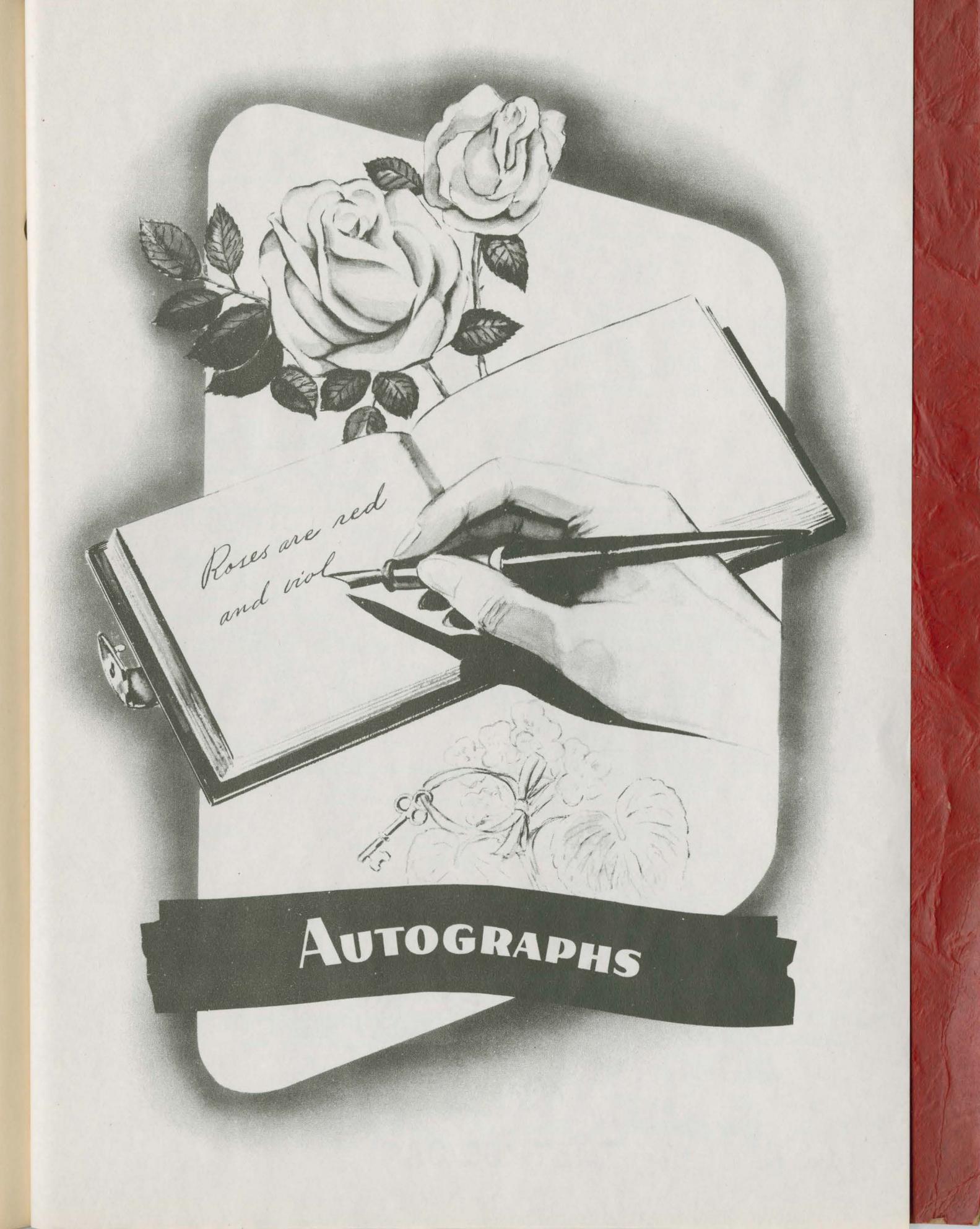
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